

CLAIMS

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1. A device for the storage and searching of textual and graphical information in electronic form, the said device comprising a case (1), a display means (9), a user interface means (3), an operating means (11), a means for storage (5) of the said information, a means of selecting information to be displayed according to the user's instructions, characterized in that it has a multiplexed address bus (10).

2. A device according to Claim 1, characterized in that the operating means (11) is an eight-bit processor combined with an IPP (Intelligent Programmable Peripheral).

3. A device according to Claim 2, characterized in that it has a type I2C internal communication bus (10).

4. A device according to any one of the Claims 1 to 3, characterized in that the storage means (5) is a memory card (5) that can be removed from case (1).

5. A device according to Claim 3, characterized in that the storage means (5) comprises memory components (22) for storing textual and graphical information that can be consulted by the user, a memory component (23) serving as memory for identification and personalization of the memory card (5), a decoder component (24), intended for selecting the memories, three I2C bus, eight-bit decoder components (25) for addressing the memory components (22), and a bus decoder component (26) adapted for transferring the stored information read in memory components (22) to the I2C bus (10).

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6. A device according to any one of the Claims 1 to 5, characterized in that it has a printer port (6).

claim 1

claim 1

7. A device according to ~~any one of the Claims 1 to 6~~, characterized in that the textual information is stored in the form of text only (ASCII format).

8. A method of searching textual or graphical information stored in electronic form, characterized in that it comprises the following steps:

- on opening the device according to the invention (with a memory card already inserted in its housing), a step (E1) in which the stored database gives, as starting information, the number of pages to be displayed and the start address of the text mode,

- a time delay step (E2) making it possible to detect whether there is a long delay without data input from the keyboard,

- in this case, a step of access to the database in graphics mode (step E3), containing for example advertising screens or other information, and for as long as all the images have not been displayed, or no key depression on the keyboard has been detected, continuation of graphics display,

- if a key has been pressed (step E4) or all the images have been displayed, return to step E1, to the stored database and to the first page displayed (a page showing the contents of the text memory, for example),

- during keystroke processing (step E5), passing through a succession of hierarchical menus permitting access either to graphical information (return to step E3), or (step E6) to a variety of stored information, and, in a chosen set of information, access to a particular page (step E7),

- using the keyboard, page scrolling forwards and backwards, or direct selection of an item from a list.